

# The Old Commonwealth.

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## THE SIGNERS.

The Massachusetts delegation, That signed our glorious Declaration, Were Hancock, Gokey, Robert Paine, The great John Adams, and again Another Adams, signed by name.

New Hampshire, called the "Granite State," Sent Roger Sherman, her noblest son, With John Adams, and John Hancock, And all in counsel and debate.

Rhode Island's delegates, we see, Were Stephen Hopkins and Elisha.

Connecticut exalted by name, Sent Roger Sherman, her noblest son, With John Adams and John Hancock, And all in counsel and debate.

New York as delegates employed Lewis, Morris, and William Floyd With Francis, Lewis and Livingston, Who did before the war was done.

New Jersey to the Congress sent For honored colleagues, President, John Witherspoon, with Stockton, Clark, Hart, Hopkinson—all men of mark.

Though Pennsylvania's roll is long For Morris, Morton, Wilson, Rush, And though most men might seem as dross To Clymer, Taylor, Shippen and Ross, To Franklin each his tribute brings Who neither lightning feared, nor kings.

The men from Delaware—indeed As true as steel in metal need—Were Rodney, with McKean and Read.

"My Maryland" is given to own Her Carroll, Peck, Chalmers and Stone.

On old Virginia's roll we see The gifted Richard Henry Lee; And just as earnest to be free His brother Francis Lightfoot Lee; And Wythe and Nelson and Blair too, With Harrison and Braxton true, But of all of them there was not one As great as Thomas Jefferson.

North Carolina's chosen men, We know, were Hooper, Hives and Penn.

And South Carolina's vote was one By Heyward, Calhoun and Middleton.

From Georgia came Gwinnett and Hall And Walton, too, the last of all Who signed our glorious Declaration, The pride and glory of the nation.

## OLD IRONSIDES.

### NAVAL CONTRIBUTION TO THE CENTENNIAL.

Among the contributions from all parts of the country which will find a place in the great Exposition at Philadelphia this year, there is none to which Americans will point with more natural pride than to an old vessel, stately still to look upon, but which has well-nigh outlived its usefulness. If a stranger wondering questions the reason, it is to be hoped that the story will be told him of this old ship, more glorious than the mythical *Argo*, which deserves to be embalmed in epic, as well as in lyric verse. This ship is the famous *Constitution*, or, if not identically the same, at any rate sprung from the loins of old *Ironclads*, and perpetuating its honored name. For the sake of any who are ignorant of the details of this once familiar story, the following sketch has been drawn up from materials furnished by Cooper, Emmons and other authorities less readily accessible. No attempt has been made to present the story in any factitious light, as it is believed that, in this instance, the simple narration of the unadorned facts will be found at once most trustworthy and most acceptable.

In 1794, when the petty Algerine pirates, who had grown bold from long continued and unpunished depredations, were fast becoming an unbearable pest in the Mediterranean, Congress passed a law directing the construction of six vessels of war for the purpose of protecting our growing commerce. Under this law, creating a little navy, the frigate "Constitution" was built. Her model was designed by Mr. Joshua Humphreys, of Boston, and her builders were Gen. Coghene and his foreman, Mr. Hartley. To the last of whom the credit of her construction appears to be mainly due. Her keel was laid on Charlestown Neck in the same year that the law was passed, but her building was not hurried, and it was not till the 20th day of September, 1797, that she slid down the carefully laid ways into the sea. When she was finally ready for service the total cost of her equipment was estimated to be about three hundred thousand dollars, and there were plenty of croakers, who shook their sage heads over the useless expense of her building, and demonstrated that she would never be worth the nation a tithe of her cost. There were plenty of men, though, who were eager to show what she could do, and so a full crew was found for her without difficulty, and under her first Captain, Samuel Nicholson, she sailed away from the harbor of Boston, July 20, 1798, on a trial cruise along our Atlantic coast. On this trip she proved herself an admirable vessel of her class, and her sailing qualities were still further tested the next year, when cruising on the West India station, under First Lieutenant Isaac Hull—for the Captain of a crack English frigate challenged Hull to a race for a can of wine, and Hull accepted, nothing loth, the two vessels started, on even terms, at sunrise and kept up the contest till sunset. The course was a dead beat to windward, and at the end of the day the English ship was hulled down to leeward. It goes without saying, that the English Captain promptly delivered over the wine and departed for parts unknown instantly. The "Constitution" continued on her old cruising ground, but nothing of note happened to her till the year 1803, when she was ordered to the Mediterranean as the flagship of Commodore Edw. Preble. A treaty of peace and commerce had been made with Algiers in 1795, but the other Barbary States were not a whit better, and it was high time to give them a lesson which they would be likely to take to heart. Three times, in close succession, the plucky Ameri-

can frigate sailed along into the harbor of Tripoli, brushed away from before her the swarms of piratical gunboats and galleys, and kept up for hours a single-handed fight with all the batteries and forts. It is a wonder, as Cooper says, that she was not knocked to shivers; but singularly enough the damage she sustained was comparatively slight, while the hornets' nest of pirates was pretty well shaken to pieces. They hastened to make peace with "those devils of Americans," and the uncommon respect with which they, as well as their confederates of Algiers and Tunis, afterward treated the American flag on the Mediterranean was in great part due to the wholesome fear inspired by the now redoubtable "Old Ironsides." The greatest services, however, which she was to render the country, and which should make her name a byword with children even, remained unperformed as yet, and to these it is that we must now turn, though leaving untold the interesting episodes which intervene, as when, for instance, at Spithead, in 1811, her Captain, again the same old man, was ordered to brave in a just cause the English Admiral, Sir Roger Curtis, backed by forty British ships.

War was declared with Great Britain June 18th, 1812, and on the 5th of July the "Constitution" got under weigh from her mooring off Annapolis, and started on a cruise along the coast to the north of Chesapeake Bay. On the 17th of July she fell in with a British squadron of four ships and a brig, under Commodore Broke, and as fighting with such odds against her was, of course, out of the question, she had nothing to do but to run for it. The English ships stood after her in hot pursuit, and then ensued the famous chase for nearly three days and nights, which won for Hull and his crew as much glory as a victory. At one time, by kedging and towing, at another by skillfully making the most of the faintest whiff of air, and again by the aid of a fortunate squall which sent her scudding along under reefed topsails, the American frigate was fairly pulled out of the confident hands of the enemy and brought safely into Boston.

Quickly leaving port again, and sailing out to sea, when nearly 700 miles east of Cape Cod a British frigate, the "Guerriere," one of the squadron which had chased the "Constitution" a month before, was sighted, and the ship was at once cleared for action. The vessels came into close quarters at 6 in the afternoon, and in less than an hour a stick was left standing in the "Guerriere" except the stump of her mast, while the "Constitution" was almost unharmed. As his ship had become entirely unmanageable, the brave English Captain Dacres was constrained to strike his colors, and the first naval battle between nearly matched adversaries in the war was decided in favor of the Americans. When Hull brought his prize safely into Boston the surprised delight of the nation knew no bounds, and men could hardly wait patiently till the short refitting of the "Constitution" was completed, and she was off again, this time under Captain William Bainbridge, in search of new glory. Cruising to the south, she met and engaged, December 29th, off San Salvador, the British frigate "Java," a vessel of the same class as the "Guerriere." At the close of a hot fight of an hour the "Constitution" had shot every spar out of her enemy and hulled her so often that she was on the point of sinking. Further resistance being hopeless, Captain Lambert surrendered her ship to Bainbridge, who blew her up on finding that she could never float to reach port. The injuries which the "Constitution" received were, as before, comparatively slight, and she reached Boston without difficulty on her return with the English prisoners on board. In the latter part of the year 1813 she put to sea once more, under a new Captain, Charles Stewart, who took her to the West Indies, where she snapped up the English schooner "Pictou" of fourteen guns, and three other small vessels. Thence in December, 1814, sailing to the Bay of Biscay, she encountered in February of the next year off the coast of Madeira two English sloops-of-war, the "Cyane" and "Levant," mounting twenty and eighteen guns respectively. After a short contest, in which Stewart showed consummate judgment in handling his ship, both of the English vessels were made prizes and brought into Port Praya. While the "Constitution" lay in the roads, in a thick mist, three large English ships-of-war entered, and Stewart was forced to cut his cables and take to flight, leaving his prizes to their fate.

One, the "Cyane," dodged her pursuers and reached New York in safety; but the "Levant" was less fortunate, being hemmed in and seized by the English, although in neutral waters. In May, 1815, "Old Ironsides" returned to Boston and went out of commission, for the war was now over. It was high time for her to have some rest, for the wear and tear of twenty years of almost incessant service had sorely tried her strength, and her sides, once so stout, were now so rotten that the enemy's balls went through her, at last, without making a splinter. After undergoing repairs, so thorough that certain caustic spirits are wont to liken her to the problematic Jackknife, she was employed on various sea service till the year 1829, when she was brought to Annapolis to serve as a school ship. From thence, at the outbreak of the war, she was removed to Newport and back again, at its close, to her former station. In 1873 she was ordered to Philadelphia, where she lies now, in charge, as is understood, of a special commission who purpose fitting her up to be exhibited along with other notable Yankee products, in the impending Centennial.

## GOOD ADVICE.

In reading authors, when you find Bright passages, that strike your mind, And which, perhaps, you may have reason, To think of at another season; Do not contented with the sight, But take them down in black and white; Such a respect is wisely shown To make another's sense one's own.

In conversation, when you meet With persons cheerful and discreet, That speak or quote in prose or rhyme, Things facetious or sublime; Observe what passes, and anon, When you come home, think thereupon; Write what occurs, forget it not— A good thing saved is a good thing got.

Speech of Hon. John T. Harris, in the House of Representatives on the W. C. & S. L. R. R.

Mr. Jones, of Kentucky. I now call up the motion of the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. Harris) to reconsider the vote by which the House on day before yesterday committed to the Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union the bill (H. R. No. 2798) to authorize the Washington, Cincinnati and Saint Louis Railroad Company to construct a narrow-gauge railway from tide-water to the cities of Saint Louis and Chicago, with pending amendments.

Mr. Harris said: Mr. Speaker, I do not desire to make a speech, but merely to state the facts in connection with the position which this bill now occupies.

I hope the House, in courtesy to the Speaker if not to myself, will consent to reconsider the vote by which the bill was referred to the Committee of the Whole, so that it may be brought back before the House for its action at such time as the pleasure of the House may determine. The facts were these: When this question was under discussion the other day my friend from Ohio (Mr. Savage) moved to refer it to the Committee of the Whole, and that motion was not more than fifty members perhaps voted, developing much less than a quorum. The gentleman from Kentucky who had charge of the bill objected to any action being taken in the absence of a quorum, but in the confusion prevailing in the House and during a colloquy between him and the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. Savage) the gentleman from Kentucky said he withdrew his objection. As I understand from him now, he meant to say the gentleman from Ohio had withdrawn his objection, but the Chair understanding him as I did, that is, as withdrawing his objection to the call of a quorum, I at once renewed the objection, but in the confusion the Chair could not hear me, although as the Chair is aware, I generally speak very distinctly. But I appeal to the Record, I appeal to the Journal, to show that I made in time the objection, which would have saved the bill from going to the Committee of the Whole. I now ask unanimous consent (and I am sure that in this request I shall have the concurrence of the Chair, in view of the fact that I made the point in time but was not heard by the Chair)—I ask unanimous consent that the bill be placed back in its original position on the Calendar. If the House will unanimously consent, in courtesy to the Chair and to myself, to place the bill back in its original position, I shall not then desire to argue the question; otherwise I wish to occupy a few moments.

The Speaker pro tempore. The Chair desires to state to the House that at the time the vote was taken upon the motion to refer this bill to the Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union there was not a quorum present. The House was proceeding to divide by tellers, of which the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. Jones) being the mover of the bill was one. There was some confusion in front of the Speaker's desk, as there is always when the House is dividing by tellers, but as appears by the Record, and the recollection of the Chair is the same, the announcement was made by the gentleman from Kentucky, (Mr. Jones) "I withdraw the call for a further count." The tellers immediately retired, and members who were passing between them separated and went to their several seats. At this time the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. Durbin) made a motion to take up another bill. The gentleman from Virginia (Mr. Harris) claims that before the gentleman from Kentucky made the motion to take up another bill, he himself objected to the arrangement, and it appears by the Record that the gentleman from Virginia after the Speaker pro tempore had decided the bill was referred to the Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union, and the House was proceeding to other business, said "I object to that agreement." The Chair did not hear the gentleman, and he is mistaken in stating that the Journal shows that he objected. It does appear in the Record.

Mr. Harris, of Virginia. It was taken down by the reporter and I never spoke to him about it. He heard it.

The Speaker pro tempore. It seems that inadvertently the rights of the gentleman from Virginia have been somewhat affected. If the House choose they can reconsider the motion to refer, and may by unanimous consent place the bill in the position it then was on the Calendar, or, having reconsidered the motion to refer, they can again take a vote on the question of reference. The Chair would be sorry if, even through misapprehension, he should so rule as to deprive any member of his rights. He will say, however, in justice to himself, that he did not hear the gentleman from Virginia until the House had proceeded to other business and was dividing on the motion of the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. Durbin).

Mr. Burchard, of Illinois. I have no objection to the consideration of the question whether it shall be to reconsider or to putting the question again whether the bill shall be referred to the Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union; but I think a vote of the House should be taken either whether the reference shall be reconsidered or on further reconsideration the bill shall again be referred to the Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union.

The Speaker pro tempore. The Chair will put the question.

Mr. Harris, of Virginia. I desire to be heard on that question.

Mr. Savage. Must not the question first be taken on my motion to lay the motion on reconsideration on the table?

Mr. Harris. The gentleman yielded to me twenty-four out of the twenty-five minutes remaining of his time.

The Speaker pro tempore. If the gentleman from Virginia desires to discuss the question of reconsideration, it is perfectly proper for him to do so.

Mr. Harris. That is what I propose to do. I hold the floor by the courtesy of the gentleman from Ohio.

Mr. Savage. I yielded twenty-four minutes of my time, retaining one minute of the time the Chair said I had for the purpose of moving to lay the motion to reconsider upon the table.

Mr. Harris. I am not prepared, Mr. Speaker, to enter into a discussion of the merits of this bill to-day upon this motion. I had thought that on a bare statement of the facts, as it appears by the Record, and as stated by myself, this House would unanimously agree to re-instate the bill upon the Calendar in the House, and thus save further time, but I am driven to the necessity of arguing this question lest the House may not understand the merits of the bill, although at the same time it cannot be expected I should go into the argument of the constitutional question, involving important matters, in so short a time. I must therefore confine myself to the brief statement of the points of the bill, with some reply to the remarks of the gentleman from Ohio who has held the floor.

What is the purpose of the bill? A charter was granted by the State of Virginia for the purpose of incorporating a railroad company called the Washington City, Cincinnati and Saint Louis Narrow-Gauge Railroad, that authorized the making of a road from the city of Washington to the city of St. Louis, with a branch to the city of Chicago. Of course Virginia could give no rights outside of her own limits. The friends of this company found the laws of the several States through which this road passed were different, and that some of the constitutions, especially that of West Virginia, prohibited the granting of any special charter, and I believe it is so in some of the other States, and consequently to undertake to procure that charter from each separate State through which this road passed would have been utterly impossible. It would have been impossible to have procured a harmonious system which would have worked without jarring and without clogging, because some States would certainly have imposed conditions inconsistent with the interests of other States, and inconsistent with the well-being and harmony of the road. Secondly, it was necessary to have a uniform charter acting in all the States alike. But whether they have the right or not to charter this road, whether Congress has the power under the constitution, is not material to the discussion of this question, and the most tender-footed and hair-splitting State-rights man need not permit his mind to be troubled upon the questions involved in this bill, because it is made subject to the approbation of each State through which it passes.

I offered the original bill at the request of a portion of my constituents, just as it had been prepared by its friends, to be considered by the committee, reserving the right to myself to oppose any of its provisions which I did not approve. There were such in the bill. But, Mr. Speaker, it is not necessary to discuss them now, as the amended bill is that on which the House is called to act.

One of the amendments to the bill is as follows: Provided, That Congress reserves the right to regulate by law the rates of fare of passengers and of freights on said railroad and post-roads.

Another amendment provided that—This act may be amended or repealed by Congress at any time.

Another amendment adopted is as follows: The charter which shall be granted shall not take effect in any State when the Legislature thereof shall by resolution object to the same.

And then there was the further amendment adopted on the motion of my colleague, (Mr. Douglas), as follows: But said corporation shall not have authority to lay out, survey, or locate any land for its projected road in or through any State until said State shall by legislative enactment expressly confer the power so to do.

That is, that the charter shall not take effect in any State until the Legislature of said State shall by special act approve of it and give its sanction. Then, sir, where is the violation of the rights of the State? If the State says the road should not invade the domain of that State, that is the end of it. We take the risk. This bill is laid before the Legislatures of the different States and they determine whether they will or will not have it. If they say they will not have it, then the action of Congress has no effect.

Some of my friends on my right may say that they object to this bill because it concedes everything to the States and yields too much of the power of Congress.

But my friend from Ohio (Mr. Sav-

age) says that Congress has reserved no right over the subject. What rights would he have Congress reserve other than those that are reserved, the right to regulate freights and to regulate fares? But he says the States through which the road may pass have no such right. Ought a State through which a railroad passes to have the right by law to regulate the fares of passengers and the rates of freight, unless it be local fares and freights? Do the States as a general thing do that for their own road? The State has a right, after looking at this charter, to determine for itself whether it will grant it or not; and if it determines to let this road pass through it without the power of regulating the rates for the transportation of persons or of property, why then it does so with a full knowledge of the fact and ought not to undertake to do it. On the other hand, the States may impose conditions upon their acceptance, which would be binding on the company.

The gentleman talks about States' rights. But individuals have rights as well as States. And while a State protects a man in the franchise of his home and his farm and gives him title to it, it has no right to say how he shall manage it when he comes into possession of it, how he shall plow it, and how he shall cultivate it.

But, sir, this bill provides that this shall be in addition a post-road, and the gentleman from Ohio denies upon this floor the right and the power of Congress to make a post-road; not only the right to adopt roads already in existence, but the right to make roads if it be necessary to carry the mails. Sir, under the old confederation Congress had only the power to establish a post-office; and it found after it established a post-office there might be no road to it, and no road might be made by a State. So when they came to adopt the Federal Constitution they added additional words giving the power to establish post-roads and post-offices. The principle was acted on by Mr. Jefferson as early as 1806. And that eminent commentator upon the Constitution, Judge Story, speaks of that limited construction of the Constitution wherein power to make a post-road was denied when the power to adopt one already made was conceded. That was the dividing line between those men who took the extreme view, as it was termed, of the limited power of the Government, and those who took the ground that the Government had a more enlarged power; that if it had the right to make a post-office it had the right to make a road to the post-office, for the reason that a post-office would be of no value unless you had a road road to it. The gentleman beside me reminds me that Congress grants charters for bridges across streams where States are connected. Ohio and Virginia, or West Virginia, must come to Congress for a charter to organize a company to build a bridge for the purpose of connecting those States.

The gentleman from Ohio would argue that you have no right to make a post-road to carry the mails. Let me read what Judge Story says as to that question.

The whole practical course of the Government upon this subject, from its first organization down to the present time, under every administration has repudiated the strict and narrow construction of the words above mentioned.

That is, that Congress could only adopt a road already constructed.

The fact, if true, that Congress have not hitherto made any roads for the carrying of the mail, would not affect the right or touch the question. It is not doubted that the power has been properly carried into effect by making certain State roads post-roads. When Congress found those roads suited to the purpose, there could be no constitutional reason for refusing to establish them as mail-roads. The exercise of authority was clearly within the scope of the power, clearly within its scope, has hitherto been restrained to making existing roads post-roads, therefore Congress cannot proceed constitutionally to make a post-road where no road now exists. This is clearly what lawyers call a *non sequitur*. It might with just as much propriety be urged that because Congress had not hitherto used a particular means to execute any other given power, therefore it could not now do it. If, for instance, Congress had never provided a ship for the Navy except by purchase, they could not now authorize ships to be built for a navy, or a *converso*. If they had not laid a tax on certain goods, it could not now be done. If they had never erected a custom-house or court-house, they could not now do it. Such a mode of reasoning would be deemed by all persons wholly indefensible.

But it is not admitted that Congress have not exercised this very power with reference to this very project. By the act of the 21st of April, 1806, (chapter 41) the President was authorized to cause to be opened a road from the frontier of Georgia, on the route from Athens to New Orleans; and to cause to be opened a road or roads through the territory, then lately ceded by the Indians to the United States from the river Mississippi to the Ohio, and to the former Indian boundary line, which was established by the treaty of Greenville; and to cause to be opened a road from Nashville, in the State of Tennessee, to Nashville, in the Mississippi Territory. The same remark applies to the act of 20th of March, 1806, (chapter 19) "to regulate the laying out and making a road from Cumberland, in the State of Maryland, to the State of Ohio." Both of these acts were passed in the administration of President Jefferson, who it is well known on other

occasions maintained a strict construction of the Constitution.

Another Mr. Justice Story; and I am sure, without intending any discourtesy to my friend from Ohio, (Mr. Savage) that Justice Story, upon constitutional questions, is quite as good authority as my friend himself can be.

Mr. Davy. Will the gentleman allow me to ask him a question?

Mr. Harris. Certainly.

Mr. Davy. Does the gentleman believe that this Government has any constitutional right to organize itself into a railroad corporation for the purpose of competing with the great railroad interests of the United States?

Mr. Harris. I do not think the Government would make itself into a corporation if it could.

Mr. Davy. That is what the bill proposes to do.

Mr. Harris, of Virginia. That is a question which has troubled the minds of the most learned jurists this country ever saw, whether a county, or a State, or the government is a corporation or not. I am sure of one thing, that the Government of the United States cannot organize itself into a corporation; it never has attempted to do so and never will. But whether it can grant corporation or corporate rights to another is another thing.

Mr. Davy. If the Government grants these corporations, then it has a right to control them and regulate the rates of freight and of carrying passengers.

Mr. Harris, of Virginia. This bill gives the Government that right, subject to the action of the States.

Mr. Davy. That brings the Government into indirect competition with the railroad interests of the country.

Mr. Harris, of Virginia. The road, if constructed, would produce a fair competition, and so much better for the people.

Mr. Davy. I claim that the bill does that thing.

Mr. Harris, of Virginia. My friend has never read the bill. I wish he would inform himself on the question.

Mr. Douglas. Will my colleague allow me to ask him a question?

Mr. Harris, of Virginia. With pleasure.

Mr. Douglas. If I understand my colleague, he argues that the power of this Government is unlimited to construct roads anywhere through, in, or by a State, wherever necessary to be used as post-roads. I do not intend to enter into a discussion of that question. But I desire to ask him this question. The Government also has the right to erect post-offices, to erect forts and arsenals, to build dock-yards for the uses of the Navy, to erect court-houses, &c., and to do many other things of that kind. Now, does my friend intend to say that Congress has the right to do these things without obtaining the concession of the State, the local right of jurisdiction within the States where these structures are to be placed? If not, then by analogy what right has Congress to construct a post-road without obtaining such concession.

Mr. Harris, of Virginia. As to the question of obtaining concession from the States, I think the practice has always been the reverse. I do not mean as to the principle, but as to the action of the Government. I think the Government of the United States has always required the States to make the concession before the Government would invest its money within the limits of the State.

Mr. Douglas. The Government never ventured to invest a dollar until it had first obtained the concession.

Mr. Harris, of Virginia. Certainly not, because it did not want its money to be placed on territory without a concession first obtained. I am as good a State rights man as my colleague. I believe in the power of the Government to do all things which are expressly conferred on it by the Constitution, and not otherwise. But my friend is even more liberal than this in his construction of the Constitution; he is in favor of Congress making appropriations for rivers and harbors and little inlets and creeks and bays. He will take money from the Government to open a river or inlet down in his district, and he will ask no concession from the State either. He is right in doing so; for that is within the power of the Government. I do not blame him for that. I had better say a few words in my district, I should be asking such aid from the Government.

Mr. Douglas. Did I understand my friend to say that I was in favor of opening dock and harbors?

Mr. Harris, of Virginia. I said that you asked for appropriations for harbors; at least that you favored them.

Mr. Douglas. Yes, sir; and I maintain that this Government in its national and party local in its jurisdiction and powers) has the constitutional right to afford aid to enterprises of this sort—Especially under the power of Congress to regulate commerce, it is not only its right but its duty to provide comfortable and safe ports and harbors for the accommodation of commerce.

Mr. Harris, of Virginia. Suppose there was a harbor in your district and that there was a town near with no post-route to it. I ask my colleague whether Congress would not have the right to make a post-road from here or any other point to get at the post-office, court-house, or other building that the Government had constitutionally erected?

Mr. Douglas. Not without the consent of the State of Virginia. The State possesses the right of eminent domain; and the Federal Government cannot dispose of the territory of a State without her consent.

Mr. Harris, of Virginia. I know the Government cannot dispose of the territory of a State without its consent;

but I do not deem it important to discuss that question of eminent domain with my friend. Men much more learned than myself and equally learned with him have discussed the question for a century, and are no nearer an agreement now than they were at the beginning; so that I shall not undertake to discuss it or express an opinion in twenty minutes. I say to my colleague and to the House that I am as good a State rights man as he is, as much in favor of the reserved and inherent rights which the States have not ceded; but I will never stand here contending for rights which do not exist or to which are not of material benefit to the States.

Music on Gas Jets.

A rather numerous company met on Saturday afternoon at the house of Mr. Frederick Eastman, in the Rue de Clichy, to witness his experiments with a strange invention of his which he calls the "pyrophone." The pyrophone, as its name indicates, is an instrument which produces sounds by means of gas jets. It had long been known that flames emit sounds, and Mr. Kastner himself had tried experiments in London; but yesterday the special public found themselves in the presence of an almost complete instrument composed of a series of glass tubes similar to organ pipes of different lengths and dimensions, in which gas jets were burning, and which played some powerful and very moving morceaux. The difficulty of the invention consisted, of course, in regularizing the jets. The theory is this: When an insulated gas jet produces a sound, you have only to bring another similar jet near it to make the sound cease. Mr. Kastner, then, has invented a contrivance to open and shut like the fingers of a hand, of which each one should allow a jet to escape. When the fingers are extended the sound is produced; when they are closed, or approach to each other, the sound ceases. He next regulated the force of the sound by the dimensions of the tubes and by the height at which the jets were placed in the tubes. The contrivance corresponds to the key-board of a piano, and you are deeply moved at hearing those jets sing with extraordinary power, purity and correctness.

The audience was still more astounded at suddenly hearing the gasiers placed in the centre of the room and set in motion by invisible electric wires, execute "God Save the Queen," in sonorous and penetrating tones. The invention is still in a rudimentary state, but I hasten to call attention to it because it seems to me destined to produce a great sensation when it shall have received the improvements which will certainly be introduced into it.

Turis Correspondent London Standard.

Louis XI and Lannoi.

The Count of Lannoi, one of the bravest of the soldiers of Louis XI of France, and one of the most brilliant ornaments of the Court, was condemned to death by that monarch for a supposed implication in a conspiracy. The count not only declared his innocence of the charge, but offered proof that would have been convincing had it been listened to; but Louis was excited, and deaf to all such approaches. To add to the indignity of his situation, the King sent his barber, Oliver le Dair—made so familiar by Scott in his novel of "Quentin Durward," to announce to him, as a special favor, that his royal master allowed him to choose whatever mode of death he might prefer. Lannoi, himself a man of courage, knew that the King not only possessed the same quality, but liked to see it in others. Bearing this in mind, he announced his choice in the following letter:

"Sire! I am penetrated with gratitude for your Majesty's extraordinary kindness, and for the anxiety you manifested on the subject of my punishment. You will believe me when I say that I would rather have lost my life in your Majesty's service than on such a charge as this. But, since my death is determined, I send you for that purpose the chain of gold which your Majesty wore at the battle of Queano, and which you placed on the neck of my father, Raoul de Lannoi, in the thickest of danger, with these memorable words: 'pauvre diem!' my friend, my combat too freely. You must be up, for I cannot afford to lose you just yet. I want your services for years to come. With this chain, sire, I wish to be hanged at the foot of the Tower du Nord, where I was wounded in the breast by an arrow meant for your Majesty, when it covered you from Raizay's fierce attack."

This appeal even Louis XI could not resist; and Lannoi's punishment was remitted, and subsequent proof of his innocence restored him to royal favor and confidence.

CENTENNIAL ADORNMENT.—At the Centennial the Philadelphia ladies cry out "Isn't it cunning?" New York ladies, "How superbly lovely!" Boston ladies, "Ah, how exquisite!" Louisville ladies, "Beautiful, so shab!" Chicago ladies, "Oh, my—I wished I owned that!" while the genuine Yankee girls from the rural districts exclaim, "Gee-whimpy, but ain't that 'ere a stunner, now!"

"Well," said the captain, "before you can be a sailor you must be able to make three ends to that piece of rope; try it." "All right," said the youngster, "there is one end, here is another, and (chucking it overboard,) there is a third." The captain thought he would do.

Man may bend to virtue.



# OLD COMMONWEALTH.

HARRISONBURG, VA.

C. H. VANDERFORD, EDITOR.

THURSDAY MORNING, JULY 13, 1876.

## National Democratic Ticket.

FOR PRESIDENT,  
**SAMUEL J. TILDEN,**  
Of New York.

FOR VICE-PRESIDENT,  
**TH'S. A. HENDRICKS,**  
Of Indiana.

### ELECTORAL TICKET.

FOR THE STATE AT LARGE,  
JOHN W. DASHIELL, of Lynchburg,  
F. W. M. HOLLIDAY, of Winchester.

DISTRICT ELECTORS.

1st District—B. F. BLAND, of Middleburg.  
2d "—THOMAS TARR, of Elizabeth City.  
3d "—A. M. KELLEY, of Richmond.  
4th "—W. K. HARRIS, of New Market.  
5th "—JOHN E. FENY, of Patrick.  
6th "—W. K. CABELL, of Buckingham.  
7th "—H. H. HEDDERLEY, of Shenandoah.  
8th "—H. JOHNSON BARBOUR, of Orange.  
9th "—D. S. PIERCE, of Wythe.

## THE OLD COMMONWEALTH FOR THE CAMPAIGN.

The Democratic and Conservative party of the country is just entering upon the most important political campaign which has ever occurred in this country. The good or ill which is to result from this contest is of greater importance than the casual observer is aware of, and depends to a great extent upon the force and perspicuity with which the issues are presented to the public mind. In order that none shall have excuse for not having a paper during the campaign we will send the COMMONWEALTH to any address, until December 31, [for the campaign] for FIFTY CENTS.

The COMMONWEALTH will discuss carefully the issues involved in the contest and keep its readers posted upon the important events of the day. It will also give a summary of the news, besides a large amount of other reading matter, whilst its local columns will contain all news in this and adjoining counties.

Let each subscriber get us another, and let those who are able subscribe for at least one who is not able to take a paper.

Send in orders at once.

The Tilden and Hendricks ratification meeting at Washington Thursday night was the largest political demonstration held in that city for many years. A. G. Thurman, of Ohio, president.

There are four Republican papers in Virginia. They all support the Hayes and Wheeler ticket. With the exception of one, they are of little merit and could not live through the campaign but for government patronage.

In the House of Representatives on Monday during a debate Foster, of Ohio, gave the lie to Singleton, of Mississippi. He subsequently withdrew the offensive language, spoke of their pleasant relations and apologized. Foster and Singleton then "shook hands across the bloody chasm."

Don Carlos, ex-King of Spain, and suite are now attending the Centennial Exposition. It is stated that he will go from this country to Cuba and inaugurate an insurrection with the view of getting upon the Spanish throne again. He is but twenty-eight years old, and after a struggle of about two years was driven out of Spain. Spain now has a republican form of government.

Notwithstanding the Senate has persistently refused to cut down the expenses of the government, the House of Representatives—a largely Democratic body—has succeeded in reducing the appropriations \$40,000,000. There is room for further reduction of expenditures and a further lease of power to the Democratic party will secure it. Work for Tilden, Hendricks and reform.

Hon. S. Teakle Wallis, the reform candidate for Governor of Maryland last fall, together with the prominent leaders of that movement, have given in their hearty adhesion to Tilden and Hendricks. They think the St. Louis convention nominated the strongest ticket that could have been put in the field and that Maryland will roll up a tremendous majority for it. Thus the ball continues to roll, gathering strength at every turn.

We publish this morning Gov. Hayes' letter of acceptance. We have no room for comments in this issue, except to say that should he be elected we may expect four years more of Grantism.—He plants himself squarely upon the national republican platform, and the last plank of that document endorses Grant and applauds his services both in war and peace. He has supported Grant and his party for seven years, and his talk about reform is mere buncombe.

In another column we publish the details of a terrible defeat of the United States forces on the frontier by the Indians. The army numbers twenty-five thousand men, yet a mere handful were sent against the thousands of well-armed and equipped Indians who roam our western territories. If the government would transfer the troops stationed at various places in the South to intimidate the people and to secure the election of Republicans to office, to the Indian country, no such sickening

details as those published would startle the country. It has been intimated by some journals that the Indian warfare was inaugurated on the plan it was to get increased appropriations and an enlargement of the army.—Whether this be true or not, there was great mismanagement.

The Republican press throughout the country is endeavoring to make political capital out of the appropriations by the House of Representatives. The House has cut them all down considerably and consequently many supernumeraries will be thrown out of office and no large surpluses will remain. Heretofore there were large amounts over the actual expenses of the government appropriated, which were expended for political purposes, but the Democratic House has determined to put a stop to that. The Republican party will not have government funds to carry elections with this year, hence their discomfiture. The cry of stopping the wheels of government is all bosh.

Ex-Secretary Bristow some days ago refused to state before a congressional committee the interviews had with President Grant regarding the prosecution of the whisky ring. The inference to be drawn, in view of Grant's shielding Babcock and others when on trial, and his subsequent pardon of some of those convicted and his more recent acts in removing some of the officials who assisted in the prosecution, is that Grant was at least a friend to the ring, if not a participant in the spoils.

Grant said "let no guilty man escape," when at the time he was doing what he could to get the whisky ring out of the clutches of the law. Since then he has rewarded the victims and dishonored the officers of justice. When Grant wrote the oft quoted sentence above he failed to fill it out and give his true meaning: let no guilty man escape getting an office.

Grant's excuse for not attending the Fourth of July celebration in Philadelphia—the place of the nation's birth—was very lame indeed. He desired to avoid the crowd and heat. The Philadelphia Times says that if it had been a seaside junket or a display of trapped jockeys and prancing steeds the ruler of forty millions of free people would have given a willing ear to the invitation to attend. His absence, as far as the ceremonies were concerned, was of no consequence. There was no leading position on the occasion he could have filled, but as President of the nation he should have been at the celebration of its hundredth anniversary.

We heard no regrets on the part of Philadelphians, however. His performance at the opening of the exhibition were such as not to make his presence desirable.

Republican reform within the party is beautifully illustrated by a Republican Senator. Last week it voted to pay twenty thousand dollars to Pinchback, of Louisiana, who for years was knocking at the doors of the Senate for admittance. He had no claim to a seat and it was finally so decided by the Senate, yet he has received the pay of a Senator. The salary was all Pinchback desired and he succeeded. There is Republican reform within the party. Trust the party with another lease of power and it will pay every unworthy scamp who contends a seat, no matter by what majority he was repudiated by the people.

Tilden reformed the Democratic party in New York without the aid of Republicans. The breaking up of the Boss Tweed and the canal rings are his work. Elect him President and he will break up the numerous rings which have stolen millions from the people.

### Collision of Colored Militia and White Citizens in South Carolina.

AUGUSTA, GA., July 8.—There has been serious trouble in Hamburg, S. C. On the 4th, Robert Butler and another colored Edgewood county, while driving in the town of Hamburg, were interrupted by a colored militia company, who blocked up the public highway and prevented them from proceeding on their way home. Complaint was made by Butler to Prince Rivers (colored), a Trial Justice, who summoned witnesses to investigate the matter. Doc Adams, captain of the company, the first witness examined, with Adams became so insolent that Trial Justice Rivers arrested him for contempt, and continued the case until this afternoon. When the trial was resumed the company proceeded to the court and rescued the prisoner Adams. Rivers, who, in addition to his being a Trial Justice, also commands the State militia, ordered the company to disarm, and on refusing to comply with his orders he called upon the citizens for aid to enforce his orders. The citizens responded and the militia company took possession of a brick building and refused to surrender. Fire was opened by both parties, which continued for several hours with little effect. One white man, Mackey Merrivether, was shot and killed and another wounded. Fire was also directed at the colored militia. Prince Rivers is in command of the citizens. The siege will be continued until the company surrenders. There are about one hundred men in the building, armed with Enfield rifles.

AUGUSTA, GA., July 9.—The riot at Hamburg has terminated disastrously. This morning between two and three o'clock six negroes were killed and three wounded; one white man was killed and another wounded. After the whites fired four rounds from a piece of artillery the negroes retreated from the brick building into cellars and outhouses of adjoining buildings. Fifteen were captured, and the others, including Capt. Doc Adams, escaped into the country.

### Fight with the Indians.

TERRIBLE BUTCHERY OF U. S. FORCES—ONLY ONE MAN LEFT TO TELL THE TALE—261 KILLED AND 51 WOUNDED.

BISMARCK, July 7.—General Custer left Rosebud on the 22nd of June with twelve companies of the Seventh cavalry. On the 24th a fresh trail was reported. On the morning of the 25th an Indian village three miles long and half a mile wide was reported fifteen miles off, and Custer pushed for it.—They had made seventy-eight miles in twenty-four hours preceding the battle.

When near the village the Indians appeared to be moving in hot haste, as if retreating. Major Reno, with seven companies, was ordered to attack the right, and Custer, with five companies, vigorously attacked the left of the camp. Reno fell them with three companies and was immediately surrounded, and after an hour's fighting and losing Lieutenants Hodgson and McDonald, and twelve men and several Indian scouts killed and many wounded, cut his way out and gained a bluff three hundred feet high, where he entrenched. He was saved after joined by Colonel Benton with four companies. Here the Indians made repeated assaults, but were repulsed with great slaughter. The Indians finally gained higher ground than Reno, and with longer-range guns than the cavalry kept up a galling fire till night. The Indians renewed the attack at daylight. Reno had lost forty odd killed before reaching the bluff, many in hand-to-hand conflict, the Indians outnumbering them ten to one. The men were without water thirty-six hours, when they determined to reach water at all hazards, and Colonel Benton made a rally, routing the main body guarding the approach to water. The character of the ground with the loss of one killed and seven wounded. The fighting then ceased for the night, during which Reno prepared to resist further attacks. There had now been forth-eight hours' fighting with no word from Custer, when the Indians abandoned their village in great haste. General Terry, with General Gibbons commanding his own infantry, had arrived, and as the comrades met men went on each other's necks. Inquiries were then made for Custer, but none could tell where he was. Soon an officer came rushing into camp and related that he had found Custer dead, stripped naked, but not mutilated, and near him his two brothers, Colonel Tom and Boston Custer; his brother-in-law, Colonel Calhoun, and his nephew, Colonel Yates; Colonel Keogh, Captain Smith, Lieutenant Crittenden, Lieutenant Hargis, Colonel Cooke, Lieutenant Porter, Lieutenant Harrington, Dr. Lord Mack Kellogg, the Bismarck Tribune correspondent, and one hundred and ninety men and scouts.

Custer went into battle with companies C, L, I, F and E, of the Seventh cavalry, and the staff and non-commissioned staff officers of the regiment, and a number of scouts, and only one Crow scout remained to tell the tale. All are dead.

MORE DETAILS OF THE FIGHT.

BISMARCK, July 7.—General Custer was surrounded on every side by the Indians, and men and horses fell as they fought on the skirmish-line or in line of battle. Custer was among the last who fell, and when his cheering voice was no longer heard the Indians made easy work of the remainder. The bodies of all save the newspaper correspondent were stripped, and most of them horribly mutilated. Custer was shot through the body and through the head.

The troops cared for the wounded and buried the dead, and returned to their base for supplies and instructions from the General of the Army. Colonel Smith arrived at Bismarck last night with thirty-five of the wounded. The Indians lost heavily in the battle. The Crow scout, who escaped by hiding in a ravine, believes the Indians lost more than the whites.

The village numbered 1,800 lodges, and it is thought there were 4,000 warriors. General Custer was directed by General Terry to find and feel of the Indians, but not to fight unless Terry arrived with infantry and with Gibbon's column.

The Herald correspondent, Kellogg, was killed.

WASHINGTON, July 7.—General Sherman telegraphs Secretary Cameron that 261 were buried on the field, and 51 wounded were brought to the steamboat.

### GRAPHIC DESCRIPTION OF THE SCENE OF CUSTER'S LAST STAND.

BISMARCK, July 7.—A party was sent on Custer's trail to look for traces of his command. They found awaiting them a sight fit to appal the stoutest heart. At a point about three miles down the right bank of the stream Custer had evidently attempted to ford and attack the village from the ford. The trail was found to lead back up to the bluffs and to the northward, as if the troops had been repulsed and compelled to retreat, and at the same time had been cut off from regaining the forces under Reno. The bluffs along the right bank of the river come sharply down to the water and are interspersed by numerous ravines.

All along the slopes and ridges and in the ravines, lying as they had fought, line behind line, showing where defensive positions had been successfully taken up and held till none were left to fight, huddled in a narrow compass, horses and men were piled up promiscuously. At the highest point of the ridge lay Custer, surrounded by a chosen band. Here were his two brothers and his nephew, Mr. Reed, Colonels Yates and Cook, and Captain Smith; all lying in a circle of a few yards, their horses beside them. Here behind Yates' company the last stand had been made, and here, one after another, these last survivors of Custer's five companies had met their death. The companies had successively thrown themselves across the path of the advancing enemy, and had been annihilated. Not a man has escaped to tell the tale, but it was inscribed on the surface of the barren hills in language more eloquent than words.

At Hagerstown Junction, on the Baltimore and Ohio railroad, there was posted the following legend: "Progress of the age. In 1776, 31 days to Baltimore; in 1876, 31 hours to Baltimore."

### The Heated Term.

The extraordinary heat which prevailed in Baltimore on Saturday was even more intense at points further north. On Saturday in Baltimore the mercury reached 96, and Sunday 99. At Camp Bedie, near Trenton, N. J., Saturday, over 200 State troops were prostrated, many falling unconscious. One death occurred, and it was thought the entire regiment would prove fatal. Every available Trenton physician was called upon to assist in the emergency. In New York on Saturday nine fatal cases of sunstroke were reported. The thermometer indicated 99 degrees. In Philadelphia the same point was indicated. Several deaths from the heat were reported, and a number of sunstroke cases occurred among the participants in the American Mechanics' parade. Many horses on the Philadelphia city railways gave out. The day was considered, without exception, the hottest of the season. Even at night the thermometer registered 90 degrees. At Toronto, Canada, at 4 P. M. Saturday the mercury rose to 93.

In Baltimore Monday fourteen persons died from the effects of the heat, and thirteen others were reported in various stages of prostration. The thermometer was 97 against 99 degrees on Sunday. The highest mercury was at Norfolk, Va., 102 1/2 degrees, Washington city ranged with Baltimore, 97 degrees. These are signal service figures and reliable. At Richmond, Va., from which no signal service report is received, the mercury is reported at 107 degrees in the shade. There are thermometers in Baltimore that also indicate a range above 100, but it is necessary to adhere in such matters to some scientific standard. From nearly all parts of the country numerous deaths from the excessive heat are reported. George P. Lathrop, State Senator from Charlotte county, died in Richmond, Va., Monday night. In Philadelphia the mercury fell 10 degrees owing to a great rain storm, but during the day there were many sunstrokes, ten fatal. In Chicago the mercury went down 25 degrees in 24 hours.—The temperature became very moderate, and it was also much more endurable at Boston. The number of sunstrokes reported in New York up to 3 P. M. was 36, many of which proved fatal. The heat was not so great as on Saturday, which it now appears reached 101 degrees in the shade.—Baltimore Sun.

### Foreign News.

The Servians have captured Račka after ten hours battle with the Turks. Other Turkish reverses are reported. The latest dispatches are contradictory, however. The Servians are said to have massacred the Turks at Belina. It is reported that an American general has joined the Servians. Two regiments of Egyptian troops have left Alexandria for Constantinople. The Bey of Tunis will forward another.—The Roman Catholics of Bosnia protest against annexation to Serbia. Rumania will oppose Turkish gunboats entering Servian-Romanian waters. The reported attempt to assassinate the Duc de Chartres is denied. Ten persons were killed by a railway accident in Switzerland. The French republicans have agreed to give the government a vote of confidence. A violent speech was made in the French Assembly yesterday by M. De Cassagnac against the republicans. The American colony in Constantinople celebrated the Fourth of July at the American college at Pera.

Later dispatches from the East state that the Servians have been defeated with heavy losses near Belina and near Tobanitz, and also between Stenitz and Novi Bazar. It is believed in Paris that the Servians cannot long continue the struggle. Forty-two persons were killed and forty-seven wounded by a colliery explosion in England. A rumor of the postponement of the Paris exhibition fixed for 1878 is officially denied. The Irish rifle team will sail from Queenstown for the United States about the 21st of August. The King and Queen of Greece have arrived at Paris. The Lancashire cotton spinners and manufacturers have resolved to reduce wages ten per cent. Over fifty thousand operatives will be affected. A reduction of wages of miners has caused a strike in several districts.

### What the Papers Say.

The Boston Herald, Independent, with the largest circulation of any paper published in New England, says: "The Democratic House should stand firm for economy. The retrenchment it proposes is reasonable, and will not impair the efficiency of the government."

It is a fact full of significance as to the relation of Hayes to the Administration, that the whole party of Louisiana carpet-baggers and official plunderers who have fattened upon the people of that unhappy land during seven years of Grantism, is enthusiastic for his election.—Indianapolis Sentinel (Dem.)

There was no good cause for the present difficulties with the Sioux.—They grew out of gross violations of treaty stipulations upon our own part, instigated by motives of greed, and promoted by the Rings in the Interior Department and elsewhere in Washington. All the cost and loss of life and misery that may accrue from the war will spring from no other cause than the desire of the Administration to gratify the avarice of speculators and political jobbers. This was in but one of the results of Grantism.—N. Y. Sun.

The Democratic National Convention at St. Louis in nominating Samuel J. Tilden, of New York, for the Presidency, has recreated the Democratic party.—Harrisburg Patriot (Dem.)

With the exception of Godlove S. Orth, the candidate for Governor, the Republican State ticket is a good one. With Orth's manifold sins to carry, the success of the Republican State ticket is endangered by the nomination of Hendricks. There is no disputing the fact that Hendricks is a popular man.—Indianapolis Herald (Rep.)

It is a significant fact which needs no trumpeting, that either of our nominees has far more experience, reputation and ability than both the Republican nominees put together.—N. Y. World.

### Gov. Hayes' Letter of Acceptance.

Gov. Hayes on Saturday addressed the following letter to the committee of the National Republican Convention appointed to inform him of his nomination:

GENTLEMEN:—In reply to your official communication of June 17th, by which I am informed of my nomination for the office of President of the United States by the Republican National Convention at Cincinnati, I accept the nomination with gratitude, hoping that I may be able to fulfill the duties of the office as a trust for the benefit of all the people.

I do not deem it necessary to enter upon any extended examination of the declaration of principles made by the convention. The resolutions are in accord with my views, and I heartily concur in the principles they announce. In the practice of the resolutions, however, questions are considered which are of such importance that I deem it proper to briefly express my convictions in regard to them. The only remedy of the evils of the convention is of paramount interest. More than forty years ago a system of appointments to office grew up based upon the maxim, "To the victors belong the spoils." The true rule, the honest rule, the capacity and fidelity constitute the only real qualifications for office, and that there is no other claim that gave place to the idea that party services were to be chiefly considered. In practice, however, the system has been essentially modified since its first introduction. It has not, however, been improved.

First, the President, either directly or through the heads of departments, made all the appointments, but gradually the appointing power in many cases passed into the control of members of Congress. The result in these cases has become not merely rewards for party service, but rewards for services to party leaders. This system destroys the independence of the separate departments of the government. It tends directly to extravagance and official incapacity. It is a temptation to dishonesty, it hinders and impairs the careful supervision and strict accountability which alone faithful and efficient public service can be secured. It obstructs the prompt removal and sure punishment of the unworthy. In every way it degrades the civil service of the country. The government, in itself, I am confident, by a large majority of the members of Congress to be an intolerable burden and an unwarrantable hindrance to the proper discharge of our legitimate duties. It ought to be abolished.

The reform should be thorough, and radical and complete. We should return to the principles and practice of the founders of the government, supplying by legislation, where needed, and that which was formerly established custom. They neither expected nor desired from the public any partisan service. They meant that the public should be their whole service to the government and to the people. They meant that the officer should be secure in his tenure as long as his personal character remained unimpaired and his performance of his duties satisfactory. If elected I shall conduct the administration of the government upon these principles, and all constitutional powers vested in the executive will be employed to establish this reform.

The declaration of principles by the Cincinnati convention makes no announcement in favor of a single principle of reform. I do not assume to add to that declaration, but believing that the restoration of the civil service to the system established by Washington and followed by the early Presidents is best accomplished by an executive who is under no temptation to use the patronage of his office to promote his own reelection, I desire to perform what I regard as a duty in stating my own indeclinable purpose, if elected, not to be a candidate for election to a second term.

On the currency question I have frequently expressed my views in public, and I stand by my record. In regard to the laws of the United States relating to the payment of the public indebtedness, the legal tender notes included, as constituting the debt of the government, I believe that the government which must in good faith be kept. It is my conviction that the feeling of an uncertainty inseparable from an irredeemable paper currency, with its fluctuations of value, is one of the worst obstacles to a revival of confidence and business and to a return of prosperity, that uncertainty can be ended but in one way, "the resumption of specie payments." The longer the instability connected with our present money system is permitted to continue the greater will be the injury inflicted upon our economical interests and all classes of society. If elected I shall approve every appropriate measure to accomplish the desired end, and shall oppose any step backward.

The resolution with respect to the public school system is one which should receive the hearty support of the American people. Agitation upon the subject is to be encouraged only by constitutional amendment the schools are placed beyond the danger of sectarian control or interference. The republican party is pledged to such an amendment.

The resolution of the convention on the subject of the permanent pacification of the country and the complete protection of all its citizens in the free enjoyment of all their constitutional rights, is timely and of great importance. The condition of the Southern States attracts attention and commands the sympathy of the people of the whole Union in their progressive recovery from the effects of the war. Their first necessity is an intelligent and honest administration of government, which will protect all classes of citizens in all their political and private rights. What the South most needs is "peace," and peace depends upon the supremacy of the law. There can be no enduring peace if the constitutional rights of any portion of the people are habitually disregarded. A division of political parties, resting merely upon distinctions of race or upon sectional lines, is always unfortunate and may be disastrous. The welfare of the South, alike with that of every other part of the country, depends upon the strict and equal observance of the law, to immigration, and to capital; but laborers will not go and capital will not be ventured where the constitution and the laws are set at defiance, and distraction, apprehension and alarm take the place of peace, loving and peace-abiding social life.

All parts of the constitution are sacred and must be sacredly observed—the parts that are new no less than the parts that are old. The moral and material prosperity of the Southern States can be most effectively advanced by a hearty and generous recognition of the rights of all by a recognition without reserve or exception. Such a recognition fully accorded it will be practicable to promote by the influence of all legitimate agencies of the general government the efforts of the people of those States to obtain for themselves the blessing of honest and capable local government. If elected I shall consider it not only my duty, but my pleasure, to give my full and hearty support to such a policy.

Let me assure my countrymen of the Southern States, that if I shall be charged with the duty of organizing an administration it will be one which will regard and cherish their true interests—the interests of the white and of the colored people both and equally, and which will put forth its best efforts in behalf of a civil policy which will wipe out forever the distinction between North and South in our common country.

While a civil service organized upon a system which will secure purity, experience, efficiency and economy, a strict regard for the public welfare solely in appointments, and speedy, thorough and unimpaired prosecution of the punishment of all public officers who betray official trusts; with a sound currency, with education unsectarian and free to all, with simplicity and frugality in public and private affairs, and with a fraternal spirit of harmony pervading the people of all sections and classes, we may reasonably hope that the second century of our existence as a nation will be the blessing of God, be pre-eminently an era of good feeling and a period of progress, prosperity and happiness.

Very respectfully, your fellow-citizen,  
R. B. HAYES.

The only graduate at West Point this year from Virginia is John R. Gresham.

### The Fall Elections.

In view of the presidential election in November, State elections, which will precede it will be looked to with interest. The following is the order of these elections:

1. Kentucky, on the first Monday in August. This election will be for members of the legislature and circuit judges. The democrats are making active preparations for the election, but so far the republicans indicate a purpose to allow the canvass to go by default.

2. North Carolina, on the first Thursday in August. In this State the democrats have put a full ticket in the field, headed by ex-Governor Z. B. Vance for the governorship. In 1872 Caldwell, the republican candidate, was elected governor by a majority of 1,899, while Grant's majority for president the following November was 23,904. Now the democrats are making an active canvass, and claim Vance's election by 15,000 or 20,000 majority.

3. California, on the first Wednesday in September. This election is for members of the General Assembly and members of Congress. The parties are pretty equally divided, each claiming the victory, and an exciting contest is predicted.

4. Vermont, on the first Tuesday in September. This election is for State officers and members of the General Assembly, and as the State is overwhelmingly republican, the only interest attaching to the election will be in noting the relative loss and gain of the two parties.

5. Maine, on the second Monday in November. Here a State ticket will be elected, and there seems to be no doubt of the re-election of Gen. Selden Conner, republican the present Governor.

6. Georgia, on the second Tuesday in October. Gen. A. H. Colquitt is likely to head the democratic ticket for the governorship, whose election is predicted by 75,000 majority. As yet the republicans have not indicated a purpose to contest the field.

7. West Virginia, on the second Tuesday in October. This election embraces a State ticket, members of the Legislature, and members of Congress. The democrats are already in the field with a State ticket, headed by Hon. A. M. Matthews, present attorney-general, for the governorship. The republicans will nominate a State ticket during the latter part of the present month. The democrats claim that all their dissensions are healed, and that they will carry the State by a large majority.

8. Ohio, second Tuesday in October. In this State a State ticket, with the exception of Governor and Lieutenant Governor, will be elected. The republicans claim that they will carry the State by an increased majority over Hayes's vote in 1875.

9. Indiana, on the second Tuesday in October. Here a full State ticket will be elected, the democratic ticket being headed by Hon. J. D. Williams, present member of Congress, for the governorship, and the republican ticket by Hon. Godlove S. Orth, late minister to Austria. Indiana promises to be the battle ground preparatory to the presidential contest in November, and both parties will put forth their best efforts to secure the ascendancy.

10. Iowa, on the second Tuesday in October. This is a republican State, and may be expected to cast its vote in that direction both in October and November.

11. Nebraska, second Tuesday in October. This is also a republican State.

12. Texas, on the first Monday in November. This State will probably go democratic by from 75,000 to 100,000 majority.

CENTENNIAL LEGION.—At the great demonstration in Philadelphia on the Fourth of July the Military display was the most important feature, and the most important of that was the Centennial Legion, composed of one company from each of the original thirteen States, as follows:

Payetteville Independent Light Infantry, N. C.; Boston Light Infantry, Mass.; Washington Light Infantry, S. C.; State Fencibles, Pa.; New Haven Guards, Conn.; First Light Infantry Regiment, N. J.; Old Guard, veteran battalion, N. Y.; Norfolk Light Artillery Blues, of Va.; Clinch Rifles, of Ga.; Amoskeag Veterans, of N. H.; detail of 100 men from the Fifth Infantry of Md.; 10th Kearney Guards, of N. J.; American Rifles, of Del.

Both of the Democratic candidates are at present Governor of their respective States, and Mr. Hayes the Radical candidate for President, is Governor of Ohio.

### COMMERCIAL.

HARRISONBURG MARKET.

CONTRACTED WEEKLY BY LONG & HELLER.

THURSDAY MORNING, JULY 13, 1876.

Flour—Family.....\$4 00 to \$5 00  
Do Super.....4 75 to 5 00  
Wheat.....1 00 to 1 10  
Corn (new).....50 to 60  
Do (old).....40 to 50  
Corn Meal.....50 to 60  
Bacon.....12 to 13  
Pork (good fresh).....15 to 16  
Flaxseed.....10 to 11  
Hay.....10 to 12  
Lard.....10 to 12  
Butter (unsalted).....10 to 12  
Eggs.....10 to 12  
Wool (unwashed).....10 to 12  
Do (washed).....10 to 12

### CATTLE MARKETS.

BALTIMORE, July 5, 1876.

Best Cattle—Price to-day ranged as follows:

Best Cattle.....\$4 87 to \$5 87  
Generally rated first quality.....4 25 to 4 87  
Medium good quality.....4 00 to 4 25  
Ordinary thin Steers, Oxen and Cows.....3 50 to 4 25  
General average of the market.....4 00 to 4 25  
Extreme range of Prices.....3 50 to 5 87  
Most of the sales were from.....4 00 to 5 00  
The market opened about the price ruling last week, but was very slow from the beginning, and there was no improvement in its activity at any time. Prices fell off, and before the close of operations 50 lower figures were recorded on all grades. The daily averaged rather better. Total receipts for the week 1113 head. Total sales for the week 1077 head. Sheep and Lambs—The market has been extremely dull this week, the only sales of moment being made close to Eastern dealers and speculators. The home demand being very light. We quote Sheep at 45c; stock Sheep 25c per head, and Lambs 5c per lb. Receipts this week 6778 head.  
Hogs—To-day comparatively light run of last week, and the very limited number of the arrivals will, may be attributed the present advanced prices on the rates of last week. The demand has been rather limited. The market is quite firm, the supply scarcely exhausted, and prices have advanced about 1c per lb. quote at 23c per lb. most of the sales being at 23c per lb. quote at 23c per lb. most of the sales being at 23c per lb.

### MARRIED.

Near Harrisonburg, on July 4th, 1876, by Rev. John McVeety, Edward F. Duff and Catherine E. Rice.

### DIED.

At Denison, Texas, on the 24th ultimo, David H. Deffen, son of the late David Deffen, of Woodstock, Va., in the 35th year of his age.  
Near Timberville, in this county, on July 5th, 1876, Mrs. Elizabeth Archard, wife of Wm. Harvey Archard, daughter of Samuel Hingardner, aged about 38 years. She was a consistent member of the Lutheran Church.  
Suddenly of cholera infantum, on Sunday morning, July 9th, at 4 o'clock, J. Marvin, infant son of John and Hannah Beery, aged 4 months.  
Near Krater's Spring, in this county, on Monday morning, July 10th, Morgan Pifer, aged about 35 years.  
On July 10th, near Edmon, Mrs. Jacob Neff, daughter of Jacob Meyers, aged about 35 years.

### CORPORATION ELECTION.

For Treasurer.  
We are authorized to announce GEO. S. CHERITIE as a candidate for re-election to the office of Treasurer of the Town of Harrisonburg, at the election to be held Thursday, July 14th, 1876.  
July 13-16

### New Advertisements.

### ONLY REMEDY FOR HARD TIMES.

### Change Your Surroundings.

ALL WHO WANT FRUIT FARMS, especially adapted to the growth of the peach, and other fruit, are invited to visit the FRUIT FARM, which is an established success and pays a LARGE PROFIT. It is also adapted to the growth of Peaches, Apples, and small fruits, like, Grapes, Grapes and other fruits. It is a most desirable place for a family to procure employment.

It has been a HEALTH RESORT for some years past for people suffering from pulmonary diseases, Asthma, Catarrh, Ague, and debility; many thousands have entirely recovered.  
A new Brick Hotel has just been completed, 100 feet front, with back buildings, four stories high, including French roof, and all modern conveniences for the accommodation of visitors.







